AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 13, without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend the claims as follows:

1-4.   (Canceled)

5.   (Previously Presented) The production system as claimed in claim 36, wherein said risk ratio calculating unit calculates said risk ratio at the time of producing the printing pictures, wherein said production unit starts producing the printing pictures in a condition that said alert information is lifted.

6.   (Previously Presented) The production system as claimed in claim 36, further comprising a customer information storing unit for storing information relating to the customer, wherein said first terminal comprises a customer identification information input unit for inputting said customer identification information to identify said information relating to the customer.

7.   (Previously Presented) The production system as claimed in claim 6, wherein said information relating to the customer comprises history information relating to a purchase history of the printing pictures of the customer, and

    wherein said risk ratio calculating unit calculates said credibility based on said purchase history of the customer.

8.   (Previously Presented) The production system as claimed in claim 36, further comprising a rate calculating unit for calculating a purchase price of the printing pictures

based on said order information, wherein said risk ratio calculating unit calculates said risk

ratio based on said purchase price.

9.   (Previously Presented) The production system as claimed in claim 36, wherein said first

terminal is placed at a remote place that is at a distant location from said order information

storing unit and is connected to said order information storing unit through a communication

network.

10.   (Previously Presented) The production system as claimed in claim 36, wherein said

first terminal is connected to said order information storing unit through the Internet.

11.   (Previously Presented) The production system as claimed in claim 36, wherein said

second terminal displays the contents of said order information.

12.   (Previously Presented) The production system as claimed in claim 36, wherein said

image data storing unit sends the image data and comprises a means for instructing said first

terminal to display said sent image data.

13.   (Canceled)

14.   (Previously Presented) The production system as claimed in claim 36, wherein said

identification information is provided by a bar code and a password associated with said bar

code.

15.   (Previously Presented) The production system as claimed in claim 36, wherein said

identification information input unit issues said order information when the image data is input

by said image data input unit.

16.   (Previously Presented) The production system as claimed in claim 36, wherein said

order information input unit comprises a means for inputting a priority condition relating to a

production of the printing pictures as said order information, and

wherein said production unit defines a priority order for producing the printing pictures

during production of a plurality of the printing pictures based on said priority condition

included in said order information and produces the printing pictures based on said priority

order.

17.   (Currently Amended) A production management apparatus for managing a production

of printing pictures ordered from a customer, comprising:

an order information input unit for receiving order information that designates

order contents of the printing pictures;

an order information recording unit for recording said order information in an order

information storing unit by associating with identification information identifying said order

contents;

an order information reading unit for reading out from said order information storing

unit said order information associated with said identification information after receiving said

identification information as a production order to start producing the printing pictures;

a risk ratio calculating unit for calculating a credibility relating to a purchase of the

printing pictures made by the customer from information relating to the customer associated

with customer identification information, calculating a risk ratio based on said credibility, and

outputting said alert information when said risk ratio is above a predetermined value;

a task controlling unit for controlling the output of said order information to produce

the printing pictures based on said order information; and

an image data storing unit for storing image data, wherein said image data stored in

said image data storing unit is deleted when a term to store said image data is expired,

wherein the production management apparatus manages a printing of print pictures

ordered by a customer by referring to the order information storing unit and the image data

storing unit,

wherein a first terminal of a production system is connected to the production

management apparatus via a network,

wherein a second terminal of a production system is connected to the first terminal and

the production management apparatus via the network, and

wherein the second terminal has an access right to authenticate the order information

for at least one of said image data storing unit and said order information storing unit,

wherein said identification information is given to the customer in exchange for

receiving the image data, and

wherein said image data storing unit instructs said first terminal to display the image

data by an input of said identification information from said first terminal.

18.   (Previously Presented) The production management apparatus as claimed in claim 17,

wherein said risk ratio calculating unit calculates said risk ratio at a time of the production of

the printing pictures, wherein the production of the printing pictures is started in a condition

that said alert information is lifted.

19.   (Currently Amended) A designated production method for producing printing pictures

of which a customer makes an order by designating the contents of the printing pictures,

comprising:

inputting order information that designates order contents of the printing pictures;

storing said order information by associating with identification information that

identifies said order contents;

inputting said identification information as a production order to start producing the

printing pictures;

reading out said order information associated with said identification information

based on said identification information;

calculating a credibility relating to a purchase of the printing pictures made by the

customer from information relating to the customer associated with customer identification

information, calculating a risk ratio based on said credibility, and outputting said alert

information when said risk ratio is above a predetermined value;

producing the printing pictures designated by said order information;

storing image data, wherein said image data is deleted when a term to store said

image data is expired;

managing a printing of print pictures ordered by a customer by referring to said order

information and the image data; ~~and~~

authenticating the order information for at least one of said storing image data and said

storing said order information<u>; and</u>

<u>displaying the image data by an input of said identification information,</u>

<u>wherein said identification information is given to the customer in exchange for</u>

receiving the image data.

20.   (Currently Amended) A business method for producing printing pictures, which a

customer designates the contents of the printing pictures, comprising:

        receiving from the customer order information that designates order contents

of the printing pictures;

        storing said order information by associating with identification information that

identifies said order contents;

        inputting said identification information as a production order to start producing the

printing pictures;

        reading out said order information associated with said identification information

based on said production order;

        calculating a credibility relating to a purchase of the printing pictures made by the

customer from information relating to the customer associated with customer identification

information, calculating a risk ratio based on said credibility, and outputting said alert

information when said risk ratio is above a predetermined value;

        producing the printing pictures designated in said read order information and

providing the produced printing pictures to the customer;

        storing image data, wherein said image data is deleted when a term to store said

image data is expired;

        managing a printing of print pictures ordered by a customer by referring to the order

information and the image data; ~~and~~

        authenticating the order information for at least one of said storing image data and said

storing said order information; and

displaying the image data by an input of said identification information,

wherein said identification information is given to the customer in exchange for

receiving the image data.

21.   (Previously Presented) The business method as claimed in claim 20, wherein the

printing pictures comprises an output image that has output image data received from the

customer,

wherein the business method further comprises storing the image data, and

wherein said producing reads out the image data after said identification information

is input as said production order.

22.   (Previously Presented) The business method as claimed in claim 20, further

comprising:

receiving said customer identification information that identifies said information

relating to the customer; and

wherein said producing starts producing the printing pictures by an input of said order

information at said receiving if said risk ratio calculated by said calculating is below a

predetermined value.

23.   (Previously Presented) The business method as claimed in claim 20, wherein said

information relating to the customer comprises a history information relating to a purchase

history of the printing pictures made by the customer, and

wherein said calculating calculates said credibility based on said history information

of the customer.

24.   (Currently Amended) A recording medium for storing a program that is executed by a

computer managing a production of printing pictures ordered from a customer, the program

comprising:

        an order information input module for receiving order information that designates

order contents of the printing pictures;

        an order information recording module for recording said order information in an

order information storing unit by associating with identification information that identifies

said order contents;

        an order information reading module to receiving said identification information as a

production order to start producing the printing pictures and reading out order information

associated with said identification information from said order information storing unit;

        a risk ratio calculating module for calculating a credibility relating to a purchase of

the printing pictures made by the customer from information relating to the customer

associated with customer identification information, calculating a risk ratio based on said

credibility, and outputting said alert information when said risk ratio is above a predetermined

value;

        an order information output module for outputting said order information to produce

the printing pictures based on said order information;

        an image data storing module for storing image data, wherein said image data stored

in said image data storing module is deleted when a term to store said image data is expired;

        a production management module for managing a printing of print pictures ordered

by a customer by referring to said order information storing unit and said image data storing

module; and

an authentication module for authenticating the order information for at least one of

said image data storing module and said order information storing unit,

wherein said identification information is given to the customer in exchange for

receiving the image data, and

wherein said image data storing module instructs a first terminal to display the image

data by an input of said identification information from the first terminal.

25.   (Previously Presented) The production system as claimed in claim 36, wherein

said production unit temporarily stops producing the printing pictures designated in

said order information according to said alert information.

26.   (Previously Presented) The production system as claimed in claim 25, wherein

said production unit resumes producing the printing pictures designated in said order

information after said second terminal inputs said authenticated order information.

27.   (Previously Presented) The production management apparatus as claimed in claim 17,

wherein said task controlling unit temporarily stops producing the printing pictures

designated in said order information according to said alert information.

28.   (Previously Presented) The production management apparatus as claimed in claim 27,

wherein said task controlling unit resumes producing the printing pictures designated

in said order information after said order information is inputted.

29.   (Previously Presented) The designated production method as claimed in claim 19,

further comprising:

temporarily stopping producing the printing pictures designated in said order

information according to said alert information.

30.   (Previously Presented) The designated production method as claimed in claim 29,

further comprising:

resuming producing the printing pictures designated in said order information after

said order information is inputted.

31.   (Previously Presented) The business method as claimed in claim 20, further

comprising:

temporarily stopping producing the printing pictures designated in said order

information according to said alert information.

32.   (Previously Presented) The business method as claimed in claim 31, further

comprising:

resuming producing the printing pictures designated in said order information after

said order information is inputted.

33.   (Previously Presented) The recording medium as claimed in claim 24, wherein said

order information output module temporarily stops producing the printing pictures designated

in said order information according to said alert information.

34.   (Previously Presented) The recording medium as claimed in claim 33, wherein said

order information output module resumes producing the printing pictures designated in said

order information after said order information input module inputs said order information.

35.   (Currently Amended) A production system for producing printing pictures ordered by

a customer, the product production system comprising:

a first terminal;

a second terminal;

an order information input unit that inputs order information to designate order

contents of the printing pictures;

an identification information input unit that inputs identification information to

identify said order contents;

a risk ratio calculating unit that calculates a credibility relating to a purchase of the

printing pictures made by the customer from information relating to the customer associated

with customer identification information, calculating a risk ratio based on said credibility, and

outputting said alert information when said risk ratio is above a predetermined value;

a production unit that produces the printing pictures designated in said order;

an image data storing unit for storing image data, wherein said image data stored in

said image data storing unit is deleted when a term to store said image data is expired; and

a production management apparatus for managing a printing of print pictures ordered

by a customer by referring to the image data storing unit and the order information input unit,

wherein the first terminal is connected to the production management apparatus via a

network,

· wherein the second terminal is connected to both the first terminal and the production

management apparatus via the network, and

wherein said second terminal has an access right to authenticate said order information

for at least one of said image data storing unit and said order information input unit,

wherein said identification information is given to the customer in exchange for

receiving the image data, and

wherein said image data storing unit instructs said first terminal to display the image

data by an input of said identification information from said first terminal.

36.   (Currently Amended) A production system for producing printing pictures ordered by

a customer, wherein the printing pictures comprises an output image for outputting image data

received from the customer to another medium, the printing pictures production system

comprising:

a production management apparatus;

a first terminal comprising:

an image data input unit for inputting the image data;

an order information input unit for inputting order information to designate

order contents of the printing pictures; and

an identification information input unit for inputting identification information

to identify said order contents;

an image data storing unit for storing the image data by associating with said

identification information;

an order information storing unit for storing order information by associating with

said identification information;

a second terminal for inputting said identification information as information to be

used for authenticating said order information;

a risk ratio calculating unit for calculating a credibility relating to a purchase of the printing pictures made by the customer from information relating to the customer associated with customer identification information, calculating a risk ratio based on said credibility, and outputting said alert information when said risk ratio is above a predetermined value; and

a production unit for producing the printing pictures designated in said order information after receiving said authenticated order information and the image data,

wherein the production management apparatus manages a printing of pictures ordered by a customer by referring to the order information storing unit and the image data storing unit,

wherein said order information storing unit comprises order expiry date information defining a term to store said order information,

wherein said order information is authenticated by extending the term determined by said order expiry date information when said identification information is input,

wherein said order information stored in the order information storing unit is deleted when the term expires,

wherein the first terminal is connected to the production management apparatus via a network;

wherein the second terminal is connected to both the first terminal and the production management apparatus via the network, ~~and~~

wherein said second terminal has an access right to authenticate said order information for at least one of said image data storing unit and said order information storing unit,

wherein said identification information is given to the customer in exchange for receiving the image data, and

wherein said image data storing unit instructs said first terminal to display the image

data by an input of said identification information from said first terminal.

37.   (Currently Amended) A production system for producing printing pictures ordered by

a customer, wherein the printing pictures comprises an output image for outputting image data

received from the customer to another medium, the printing pictures production system

comprising:

a first terminal comprising:

an image data input unit for inputting the image data;

an order information input unit for inputting order information to designate

order contents of the printing pictures; and

an identification information input unit for inputting identification information

to identify said order contents;

an image data storing unit for storing the image data by associating with said

identification information;

an order information storing unit for storing order information by associating with

said identification information;

a second terminal for inputting said identification information as information to be

used for authenticating said order information;

a risk ratio calculating unit for calculating a credibility relating to a purchase of the

printing pictures made by the customer from information relating to the customer associated

with customer identification information, calculating a risk ratio based on said credibility, and

outputting said alert information when said risk ratio is above a predetermined value;

a production unit for producing the printing pictures designated in said order

information after receiving said authenticated order information and the image data; and

a production management apparatus for managing a printing of print pictures ordered by a customer by referring to the order information storing unit and the image data storing unit,

wherein said image data storing unit comprises image expiry date information defining a term to store the image data,

wherein said order information is authenticated by extending the term determined by said image expiry date information when said identification information is input,

wherein said image data stored in the image data storing unit is deleted when the term expires,

wherein the first terminal is connected to the production management apparatus via a network,

wherein the second terminal is connected to both the first terminal and the production management apparatus via the network, ~~and~~

wherein said second terminal has an access right to authenticate said order information for at least one of said image data storing unit and said order information storing unit,

wherein said identification information is given to the customer in exchange for receiving the image data, and

wherein said image data storing unit instructs said first terminal to display the image data by an input of said identification information from said first terminal.

38.   (Currently Amended) A production system for producing printing pictures ordered by a customer, wherein the printing pictures comprises an output image for outputting image data received from the customer to another medium, the printing pictures production system comprising:

a first terminal comprising:

an image data input unit for inputting the image data;

an order information input unit for inputting order information to designate order contents of the printing pictures; and

an identification information input unit for inputting identification information to identify said order contents;

an image data storing unit for storing the image data by associating with said identification information;

an order information storing unit for storing order information by associating with said identification information;

a second terminal for inputting said identification information as information to be used for authenticating said order information;

a risk ratio calculating unit for calculating a credibility relating to a purchase of the printing pictures made by the customer from information relating to the customer associated with customer identification information, calculating a risk ratio based on said credibility, and outputting said alert information when said risk ratio is above a predetermined value;

a production unit for producing the printing pictures designated in said order information after receiving said authenticated order information and the image data;

a rate calculating unit for calculating a purchase price of the product based on said order information, wherein said risk ratio calculating unit calculates said risk ratio based on said purchase price; and

a production management apparatus for managing a printing of print pictures ordered by a customer by referring to the order information storing unit and the image data storing unit,

wherein said image data stored in the image data storing unit is deleted when a term to

store said image data is expired,

wherein the first terminal is connected to the production management apparatus via a

network,

wherein the second terminal is connected to both the first terminal and the production

management apparatus via the network, ~~and~~

wherein said second terminal has an access right to authenticate said order information

for at least one of said image data storing unit and said order information storing unit,

wherein said identification information is given to the customer in exchange for

receiving the image data, and

wherein said image data storing unit instructs said first terminal to display the image

data by an input of said identification information from said first terminal.